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REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Preliminary Amendment.

The specification has been amended to update the priority claim.

Original claims 12 to 19 of the parent application have been canceled. Claim 21 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 12.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION

A new paragraph has been inserted before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 1 as follows:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of copending application no. 09/248,016, filed February 10, 1999.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 21 has been amended as follows:

21. (AMENDED) A golf ball preform manufactured by the method [of claim 12] comprising: compounding a batch of golf ball core stock in a mixer;

sheeting the batch of compounded golf ball core stock with a sheeter, the sheeter including an extruder portion having at least one screw; and

shaping golf ball preforms from the sheeted batch of golf ball core stock.